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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A method comprising the steps of:

  determining a synchronization state of an audio data relative to a system clock;

  when the synchronization state is in a first state maintaining a current playback;
  - when the synchronization state is in a second state making a first playback adjustment to the audio data; and
  - when the synchronization state is in a third state making a second playback adjustment to the audio data, wherein the second state indicates a better level of synchronization of the audio data than the third state, and the second playback adjustment provides a coarser playback adjustment than the first playback adjustment.
- 2. The method as in Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

  when the synchronization state is in a fourth state initializing the system clock to a predefined value.
- 3. The method as in Claim 2, wherein the predefined value is equal to a representation of a system clock associated with a source of data.
- 4. The method as in Claim 3, wherein the representation of the system clock associated with the source of the audio data is a program counter clock associated with MPEG-type data.
- 5. The method as in Claim 1, wherein the first playback adjustments include adjustments to audio data samples.
- The method as in Claim 5, wherein the first playback adjustments include performing a sample rate conversion of the audio data samples.

- 7. The method as in Claim 1, wherein the second playback adjustments include adjustments to PES packets.
- 8. The method as in Claim 7, wherein the second playback adjustments include repeating PES packets.
- 5 9. The method as in Claim 7, wherein the second playback adjustments include dropping PES packets.
  - 10. The method as in Claim 1, wherein determining a synchronization state includes comparing a PTS value to an STC value.
  - 11. The method as in Claim 10, wherein a difference between the PTS value and the STC value is compared to a delta value.
  - 12. The method as in Claim11, wherein a delta value associated with the first state indicates a time difference equivalent to playback of a single audio data sample.
  - 13. The method as in Claim 12, wherein the time to play a single audio sample is calculated by determining an audio data type.
- 15 14. The method as in Claim 13, wherein determining the audio data type is based upon a data stream type.
  - 15. The method as in Claim 13, wherein determining the audio data type is based upon a data stream identifier.

- 16. The method as in Claim 11, wherein a delta value associated with the second state indicates a range of time from the time required for playback of 2 audio samples to the time required for playback of 32 audio data samples.
- 17. The method as in Claim 16, wherein the time to play a audio samples is calculated by determining an audio data type.
  - 18. The method as in Claim 17, wherein determining the audio data type is based upon a data stream type.
  - 19. The method as in Claim 17, wherein determining the audio data type is based upon a data stream identifier.
  - 20. The method as in Claim 11, wherein a delta value associated with the third state indicates a range of time from the time required for playback of 1 audio frame to the time required for playback of 3 audio data frames.
  - 21. The method as in Claim 20, wherein the time required for playing audio frames is calculated by determining an audio data type.
- The method as in Claim 21, wherein determining the audio data type is based upon a data stream type.
  - 23. The method as in Claim 21, wherein determining the audio data type is based upon a data stream identifier.
  - 24. The method as in Claim 11, wherein the delta value is variable.

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- 25. A system comprising:
  - a data processor having an I/O buffer;
  - a memory having an I/O buffer coupled to the I/O buffer of the data processor;
  - a first data processing component capable of maintaining playback of audio data samples according to a first state of synchronization;
  - a second data processing component capable of:
    - performing a first playback adjustment to maintain a second state of synchronization;
  - a third data processing component capable of:
    - performing a second playback adjustment to maintain a third state of synchronization, wherein the second state of synchronization indicates a better level of synchronization of audio data than the third state, and the second playback adjustment provides a coarser playback adjustment than the first playback adjustment.
  - a system time clock capable of being used to track presentation times associated with the audio data.
- 26. The system as in Claim 25, further including:
  - a fourth data processing component capable of initializing the system time clock to a predefined value to maintain a fourth state of synchronization.
- 27. The system as in Claim 26, wherein the predefined value is equal to a representation of a system clock associated with a source of data.
  - 28. The system as in Claim 27, wherein the representation of the system clock associated with the source of the audio data is a program counter clock associated with MPEG-type data.

- 29. The system as in Claim 25, wherein the first playback adjustment includes adjustment to audio data samples.
- 30. The system as in Claim 29, wherein the first playback adjustment includes performing a sample rate conversion of the audio data samples.
- 5 31. The system as in Claim 25, wherein the second playback adjustment includes adjustments to PES packets.
  - 32. The system as in Claim 31, wherein the second playback adjustment includes repeating PES packets.
  - 33. The system as in Claim 31, wherein the second playback adjustment includes dropping PES packets.
  - 34. The system as in Claim 25, wherein operations within the data processing components are determined by comparing a PTS value to an STC value.
  - 35. The system as in Claim 34, wherein a difference between the PTS value and the STC value is compared to a delta value.
- The system as in 35, wherein a delta value associated with the first state indicates a time difference equivalent to playback of a single audio data sample.
  - 37. The system as in Claim 36, wherein the time to play a single audio sample is calculated by determining an audio data type.

- 38. The system as in Claim 35, wherein a delta value associated with the second state indicates a range of time from the time required for playback of 2 audio samples to the time required for playback of 32 audio data samples.
- The system as in Claim 11, wherein a delta value associated with the third state indicates a range of time from the time required for playback of 1 audio frame to the time required for playback of 3 audio frames.
  - 40. The system as in Claim 35, wherein the delta value is variable.
  - 41. The system as in Claim 25, wherein the memory is capable of storing code for the first, second and third data processing components.
  - 42. The system as in Claim 25, wherein the first, second and third data processing components are represented in hardware.
  - 43. The system as in Claim 25, wherein the first data processor includes a demultiplexer.
  - 44. The system as in Claim 25, wherein the presentation time is determined through a presentation time stamp associated with a data stream.
- 15 45. The system as in Claim 25, wherein the presentation time of the data packets are interpolated from the presentation time stamp associated with the data stream.
  - 46. The method as in Claim 25, wherein the second data processing component is further capable of processing data packets into data samples.

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- 47. A computer readable medium tangibly embodying a plurality of programs of instructions, the plurality of programs including:
  - a first data processing component capable of maintaining playback of audio data samples according to a first state of synchronization;
  - a second data processing component capable of:

performing a first playback adjustment to maintain a second state of synchronization;

a third data processing component capable of:

performing a second playback adjustment to maintain a third state of synchronization, wherein the second state of synchronization indicates a better level of synchronization of audio data than the third state, and the second playback adjustment provides a coarser playback adjustment than the first playback adjustment.

- 48. The computer readable medium as in Claim 47, further including a fourth data processing component capable of initializing the system time clock to a predefined value to maintain a fourth state of synchronization.
- 49. The computer readable medium as in Claim 47, wherein the third data processing component is capable of controlling hardware used to process the data packets into data samples.
- The computer readable medium as in Claim 47, wherein the second data processing component is capable of controlling hardware for processing the data samples.
  - 51. The system as in Claim 47, wherein operations within the data processing components are determined by comparing a PTS value to an STC value.

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- 52. A method comprising the steps of receiving an MPEG-type transport stream; demultiplexing the MPEG-type transport s
  - demultiplexing the MPEG-type transport stream to generate transport packets; synchronizing a system time clock to a program clock reference received through the MPEG-type transport stream;
  - determining if a PTS value associated with the PES packets is within a predefined value of the system time clock;
  - when the PTS value is within the predefined value, adjusting audio samples related to the transport packets; and
  - when the PTS value is not within the predefined value, adjusting PES packets related to the transport packets.
- 53. The method as in Claim 52, wherein the transport packets are processed into the PES packets.
- 54. The method as in Claim 53, wherein the PES packets are processed into the audio samples.
- 55. The method as in Claim 52, wherein the predetermined value indicates a range of time from the time required for playback of 1 audio frame to the time required for playback of 3 audio data frames.
- 56. The method as in Claim 55, wherein the time required for playing audio frames is calculated by determining an audio data type.